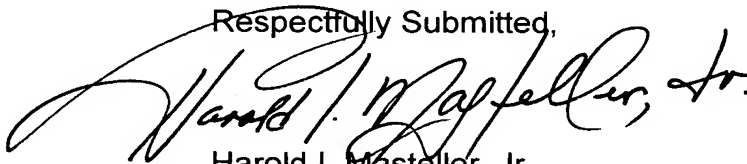


REMARKS

This continuing application and preliminary amendment is filed after the issue fee payment date of September 29, 2003 in the above mentioned parent application no. 10/256,643. In view of the date, this application is filed under 37 CFR 1.53(d) in order to have the United States Patent Office consider Sumitomo's JP H2-138451, published May 28, 1990. The Sumitomo reference was recently discovered during the examination phase of Applicant's corresponding European patent application no. EP 02 027 947.7. Applicant believes the present claims distinguish over Sumitomo because JP H2-138451 is directed to a galvanized coated product and/or bath that contains 10% or lower amounts of aluminum by weight.

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Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Harold I. Masteller, Jr.", written in a cursive style.

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